

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Cynthia Pearson, Public Information Officer, Montana Department of Revenue, (406) 444-6700

Department of Revenue offers last-minute state income tax assistance

(HELENA) - The April 15 tax filing deadline is around the corner, and the Montana Department of Revenue is offering extended hours to those still working on their state income tax returns.

"Montana taxpayers are great to work with and as the April 15 income tax deadline nears, we want to help them in every way we can," said Dan Bucks, Director of the Department of Revenue.

The department provides assistance on individual income tax matters through its call center, statewide local offices, and Internet website.

Call center

Taxpayers can call the department's Call Center for assistance toll-free at 1-866-859-2254 between 8 a.m. – 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. If calling from the Helena area, please dial 444-6900.

The Call Center will also offer extended hours during the last few days before the tax deadline. Extended hours will be:

Saturday, April 10 – 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Monday, April 12 – 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Tuesday, April 13 – 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Wednesday, April 14 – 7:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Thursday, April 15 – 7:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Local offices

During income tax season, the department offers taxpayer assistance at selected offices statewide. A taxpayer can drop by one of the participating Department of Revenue offices statewide to electronically file a state income tax return for free. The taxpayer needs to prepare the state income tax return in advance.

The following are Department of Revenue offices where electronic filing is offered.

Billings: 175 N. 27th Street, Suite 1400, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. Monday through Friday

Great Falls: 300 Central Avenue, Suite 520, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. Monday through Friday

Helena: Mitchell Building, 125 N. Roberts, 3rd floor (parking lot on Sanders Street) 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. This site also offers assistance on state tax returns, in addition to free electronic filing.

Missoula: 2681 Palmer Street, Suite 1, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. Monday through Friday; Saturday, April 10, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Taxpayers also are invited to visit any of the department's local offices, located throughout the state, during normal business hours to obtain the most commonly used state tax forms, schedules and instructions.

In addition, there are more than 70 volunteer tax preparation sites around the state through Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) and the AARP Tax-Aide Montana program. To find out if you qualify and to see a comprehensive listing of locations, visit *MontanaFreeFile.org*.

Website

Taxpayers who prefer to get information online can visit the Department of Revenue's website at *revenue.mt.gov*. The site contains basic income tax information, free electronic filing, downloadable forms and instructions, important updates and filing tips.

Online payment of current and back-year taxes is also available on *revenue.mt.gov* through Income Tax Express.

"Electronic filing is a great option," said Bucks. "Taxpayers who file their tax return electronically and also request direct deposit are in the best possible situation. That combination can get your refund to you in as few as five days."

#